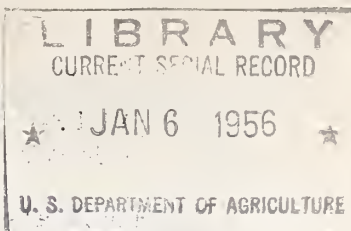


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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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INDONESIAN LEAF TOBACCO EXPORTS
DOWN 10 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF '55

Indonesia's exports of leaf tobacco during the first half of 1955 totaled 20.8 million pounds--down 10 percent from the 23.2 million pounds exported during the corresponding period of 1954. The decline in exports is attributed to the adverse weather conditions affecting the output of the two previous crops.

INDONESIA: Exports of leaf tobacco during the January-June periods, 1953-55

Country of Destination	Jan.-June 1953	Jan.-June 1954	Jan.-June 1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Netherlands	23,314	21,703	18,297
United States	589	735	62
Indochina.....	379	225	108
Japan.....	-	207	2,375
New Zealand.....	-	18	7
German Republic.....	-	264	-
TOTAL.....	24,282	23,152	20,849

Source: Statistik Perdagangan--Ekspor, June 1955

Shipments to the Netherlands, the United States, Indochina, New Zealand, and the German Republic declined from the first 6 months of 1954; whereas, exports to Japan were at a record high. Exports to Japan during the first 6 months of 1955 were about 2.2 million pounds larger than last year.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TOBACCO
EXPORTS UP

Exports of Dominican leaf during the first half of 1955 totaled almost 9 million pounds, exceeding the same period last year by 4.6 million. Most of the increase occurred in larger shipments to Spain and France. Exports to Algeria, Indochina, Belgium, and the Netherlands were substantially above the same 6 months of last year; whereas, Uruguay, French Morocco, the Canary Islands, and the Republic of Germany reduced their takings of Dominican leaf.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Exports of leaf tobacco by country of destination, Jan. - June 1955, with comparisons

Country of Destination	1953	1954	January-June	
			1954	1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
German Republic.....	2,956	5,847	817	734
Algeria.....	2,716	2,853	138	738
Belgium.....	3,225	4,755	685	775
Spain.....	112	4,378	-	3,114
France.....	1,285	2,222	-	1,086
Netherlands.....	2,440	1,687	482	848
Indochina.....	3,267	688	131	449
Canary Islands.....	617	481	432	221
French Morocco.....	437	1,354	472	-
Uruguay.....	419	1,091	515	-
Other.....	3,353	1,831	710	984
Total.....	20,827	27,187	4,382	8,949

Source: Direccion General de Estadistica

TAIWAN INCREASES
TOBACCO PRODUCTION

Tobacco production in Taiwan (Formosa) in 1956 is expected to increase substantially for the second successive year and is forecast at 32.7 million pounds. This is an increase of 27.5 percent as compared with the 1955 crop of 25.6 million and is 53 percent above the 1954 output of 21.3 million pounds. Acreage planted for the 1956 crop, most of which was transplanted in the last three months of calendar year 1955, is estimated at 19,900 acres as compared with 15,400 acres harvested in 1955.

Weather conditions for the 1955 crop were favorable and the quality of the crop was well above average. Approximately one-half of the crop was within the first four grades of leaf, while in the three previous years the percentage in the four upper grades was about one-third of the total.

SYRIAN TOBACCO EXPORTS SHARPLY DOWN

Exports of Syrian leaf during the first half of 1955 totaled only .2 million pounds as compared with 1.4 million pounds during the corresponding period of 1954. Exports of Syrian leaf have been declining annually from the 1951 record level of 8.3 million pounds. Reduced shipments to the United States, which is the principal export outlet, and large Abu Riha (Latakia) stocks selling at unfavorable prices have caused the decline in exports.

SYRIA: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco by country of destination, with comparisons

Country of Destination	1953	1954	January-June	
			1954	1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	2,490	2,145	1,153	-
United Kingdom	58	137	77	93
Lebanon.....	353	917	-	-
Netherlands.....	18	60	7	2
Others.....	218	440	159	79
TOTAL.....	3,137	3,699	1,396	174

Source: Directorate of Statistics, Ministry of National Economy.

GERMAN EXCISE TAX ON SMOKING TOBACCO REDUCED

The Federal Republic of Germany has amended the tobacco taxation law to provide for a reduction of 7 to 10 percent in the excise tax rates on smoking tobacco. The excise tax rates for fine-cut and pipe tobacco were reduced from 25 - 47 percent to 16 - 41 percent of the retail price. The retail price of smoking tobacco remain unchanged. This tax reduction amendment was promulgated by the German Government on November 17, 1955, to become effective December 1, 1955; however, it was made retroactive to October 1, 1955, to refund part of the tax paid by the smoking tobacco industry to compensate for the increased production costs. The refund averages about 5 percent of the retail value of the production during the period April 1, 1954, to September 30, 1955.

The basic reason that made the amendment necessary was the inflexibility of the tobacco pricing and taxation system, which rigidly fixed retail prices and excise rates--while at the same time production costs were mounting.

The reduction in excise rates appeared to offer the best possible solution to the manufacturers' cost-price squeeze.

MOROCCO'S TOBACCO
ACREAGE DOWN

Tobacco acreage and production for the 1955 harvest in Morocco continues downward due to higher production costs as a result of an increase in agricultural wages. Also, the nationalist boycott of tobacco products produced and controlled by the government monopoly, Regie des Tabacs du Maroc, has sharply curtailed demand for domestic leaf. The 1955 production was placed at 3.7 million pounds from 2,792 acres as compared with the 1954 crop of 4.7 million pounds from 3,514 acres.

FRENCH 1955 DAIRY PRODUCTION FORECAST UP

Despite a drought that affected production in all Western Europe last summer, France estimates that 1955 cow's milk production will slightly exceed the 40.86 billion pounds produced in 1954. Eastern France, which had relatively adequate rainfall, has more cows in milk and a higher output per cow this year, and October rains have generally improved pastures throughout France.

French butter is produced primarily in western France, where, with the bulk of the fluid demand, the butter industry is particularly sensitive to changes in milk output. Lower production there resulted in a forecast decrease of 26.5 million pounds from the 657.0 million produced in 1954. Slightly over 17.6 million pounds will be imported for the winter season, including 2.2 million from the United States.

French cheese, primarily produced in eastern France, is estimated at almost 2 percent over the 774 million pounds produced last year.

This year's canned milk production is forecast at 132.3 million pounds and the output of dried milk is forecast at 39.7 million. Each of these figures show a rise of 4.4 million pounds over last year.

ROQUEFORT CHEESE PLANT OPENS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA

A new dairy at Gatooma, Southern Rhodesia, has facilities for processing Roquefort cheese. The plant can produce up to 400 pounds of cheese a day, and it is hoped that with sufficient milk supplies the entire Roquefort requirements of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyassland will be obtained through this domestic production.

NEW INDONESIAN DAIRY DUTY SET

Specific commodity information has been received on the recent revisions in Indonesian import procedures and regulations on the alignment of the categories subject to the import surcharge (TPI). In Category I, which is considered an essential import category, are whole and skim milk powders. The TPI surcharge in this category is 50 percent ad valorem. In Category II, the semi-essential category, are condensed and evaporated milk. The TPI surcharge on this category is 100 percent ad valorem. In the luxury category, Number III, on which a 200-percent surcharge is placed, are butter and sterilized milk. No dairy products are included in the 4th, or extreme luxury, category, on which a TPI surcharge of 400 percent is made.

The recent revisions in the categories and the imposition of import surcharge TPI did not affect the import duties--which are continued as previously. Under these regulations, in addition to the original ad valorem duty imposed, is an additional 50-percent duty surtax; this has the effect merely of increasing the import duty by one-half. For example, the rate on dry whole milk and nonfat dry milk solids is 12 percent ad valorem. A 50-percent surcharge is levied on this ad valorem rate--which means that the effective rate of the duty is actually 18 percent ad valorem. To this is added the import surcharge (TPI)--which in this case of milk powders is 50 percent. If dry milk to the value of \$100 were imported, the 12-percent duty charge thus required payment originally of \$12. The duty surcharge would add 50 percent of the 12 percent, or \$6.00--and the TPI surcharge would be \$50. Thus, the total import charges would be \$68 on this item falling in the essential goods category.

The following table shows the present ad valorem charges on dairy imports in Indonesia:

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Import charges in Indonesia on ad valorem bases

Commodity	Duty	50% Duty Surtax	Import Surcharge (TPI)	Total Import Charges
(In Percent of Ad Valorem)				
Powdered milk.....	12	6	50	68
Condensed and evaporated Milk....	12	6	100	118
Dessert cheese <u>1</u> /....	20	10	100	130
Other cheese	12	6	100	118
Butter, refrigerated..	20	10	200	230
Other butter.....	12	6	200	218

1/ Particularly those packaged in packages of less than 1.5 pounds.

Preparations of milk for infants, while subject to the ordinary import charges of milk products, are included in the list of items exempt from import surcharges.

In 1954, on the basis of data from countries of origin, Indonesia imported 698,000 pounds of cheese, 29 million pounds of canned milk products, 2.9 million pounds of dried milk, and 150,000 pounds of butter. United States export dairy trade with Indonesia was confined to the powdered milk products. United States exports of dried whole milk to Indonesia amounted to 65,000 pounds, nonfat dry milk solids shipments totalled 871,000 pounds, and infant foods were only 27,000 pounds.

LOCAL DRY WHOLE MILK PRODUCTION PLANNED IN PANAMA

With the Republic of Panama importing 1.2 million pounds of dry whole milk annually, plans are being made to convert the milk production of Chiriqui Province, now largely unused, to whole milk powder in a drying plant to be built in Northwestern Panama.

The Chiriqui Milk Products Corporation, the organization sponsoring the plant, points out that the Province of Chiriqui has over 29 percent of the cattle and accounts for over 50 percent of the total milk production of Panama, double the output of the next ranking Province of Cocle. Cocle, however, sells 80 percent of its production, while Chiriqui is able to sell only 28 percent of its output. Chiriqui has the more favorable climate and pastures, but because of the limited market local cattlemen have specialized in beef rather than dairy animals. The Corporation believes, however, that milk production will double in Chiriqui if a nearby market becomes available.

Interviews of some local farmers led to the conclusion that 13,200 pounds of milk could be delivered to the plant at the present rate of production. Of more importance were indications that this rate could be doubled during the second year, when a larger number of cows would be milked in view of the available market. With daily delivery of 27,300 pounds of milk, the plant could produce 3,300 pounds of dried whole milk per day, or an annual production equal to the 1.2 million-pound average annual import.

A price of \$3.18 per cwt. was generally considered satisfactory by the farmers interviewed, even though farmers in the Central Provinces are receiving \$3.63 per cwt. The farmers in Chiriqui are primarily interested in establishment of a market for their milk. Later they may press for a better price, and the company expects to be able to pay it at that time.

The investment in plant and equipment will amount to \$300 thousand. Calculated cost of producing one pound of dried whole milk is estimated at 59 cents per pound for the first year and about 47.5 cents per pound after the first year of operation. The product is expected to retail initially for 80 cents per pound.

Dried milk has not been a highly protected product in Panama. Present import duties amount to 2.27 cents per pound plus 5 percent. In January, 1954, the Corporation signed a 25-year contract with the government under the law which protects local industry. The Corporation interprets this as allowing only the difference between local production and consumption to be imported.

U. K. DAIRY PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS DURING FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1955

The United Kingdom reports milk production during the first 10 months of 1955 at 17.3 billion pounds, 389 million pounds below the same period in 1954. The amount utilized for fluid milk during both periods was about 13 billion pounds. The decline in amount of milk available for manufacture was almost wholly reflected in lower butter and cheese production; utilization for these two products was down 26 percent from the first 10 months of 1954.

The dairy product import picture showed some compensation for decreased local production. Butter imports during the January-October period were up 11 percent over the same period in 1954, and totaled 594.4 million pounds. Of special interest is the fact that butter imports from Commonwealth sources were up 34 percent, while butter entering the United Kingdom from foreign sources was down 14 percent. The situation was due to increased takings from Australia and New Zealand, while imports from Denmark decreased.

Imports of cheese were 2 percent below the January to October 1954 level and stood at 244.9 million million pounds. The 2 million pounds of canned milk imported during the 10-month period is less than one-third of that taken in January-October 1954.

A 59-percent reduction in imports of whole and skimmed milk powder was attributed to the reduction in supplies from New Zealand and Australia, but imports of buttermilk and whey powder were nearly three times as great as in January-October 1954 due to a rise in shipments from New Zealand and the Netherlands.

SMALL TURKISH FILBERT CROP CONFIRMED

Recent reports from Istanbul confirm earlier estimates of a 1955 filbert crop of 50,000 short tons, unshelled, in comparison with the 1954 bumper crop of 125,000 tons. In spite of exceptionally high prices, Turkish filberts have moved out rapidly, and only about 5,000 tons, shelled, were reportedly still available in mid-December. Export prices, which opened in the vicinity of \$115 per 100 kilos (52 cents/lb.), compared with \$95 (43 cents/lb.) a year earlier, soared to \$180 (82 cents/lb.) for sales in countries within the European Payments Union, and attained a peak of \$212.50 (96 cents/lb.) for sales to non-EPU countries. There has been some reaction from these prices, and purchases by EPU countries can reportedly be made at \$160 (73 cents/lb.).

BELGIAN DEPARTMENT STORES
PROMOTE SALE OF U.S. FRUIT

Two of the largest department stores in Belgium have been promoting the sale of fresh and processed United States foods.

Before Christmas, these stores carried large stocks of United States dried fruit--prunes, raisins, and apricots. There is a definite consumer preference for United States dried fruit in comparison with that from other countries.

Among the canned fruits the best sellers are apricots, fruit salad, and fruit cocktail. Asparagus is the only important canned vegetable from the United States. Belgian consumers prefer European canned peas and green beans. United States canned baby food is increasing in popularity. Fresh and canned nuts from the United States have sold well.

One of the stores is planning an intensive "Buy America" program for the Easter season. The publicity theme will be "How America Lives, Eats, Dresses, Plays, and Relaxes." The store restaurants will specialize in American foods, and an American chef will supervise food preparation.

These stores are making a study of the reactions of Belgian consumers to various American food items. It is planned to stock regularly the items in most active demand.

UNFAVORABLE WEATHER ADVERSELY AFFECTS
APPLES IN SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA

Apple orchards in the important irrigation districts of New South Wales experienced unusually wet and cold weather during the blossoming period, which adversely affected pollination and upset spray schedules. Black spot and other fungus diseases were in evidence, but the wider use of mechanical spraying equipment was expected to reduce losses.

ECUADORIAN BANANA PRODUCTION CONTINUES UPWARD TREND

The 1955 banana production in Ecuador is unofficially estimated to be 35 million stems compared to about 29 million stems in 1954 and 24 million stems in 1953.

In 1954 total exports amounted to about 19.5 million stems and exports for the first 9 months of 1955 amounted to 18.8 million stems. The difference between production and exports represents waste, spoilage, and domestic consumption. The waste and spoilage is reported to be high.

Slightly more than 70 percent of exports in 1954 went to the United States, with the Republic of Germany, Belgium, and Chile taking most of the balance. The stems shipped in 1955 averaged about 4 to 5 pounds smaller than those exported in 1954 because of dry weather and a natural deterioration in the fertility of the land. The small stems are not acceptable in export trade and are either consumed locally or wasted.

GERMAN REPUBLIC REDUCES DUTY ON FRUITS

The Republic of Germany has reduced the duty on a number of fruit items during the period December 12, 1955, to June 30, 1956. The changes are as follows:

<u>Item</u>	Ad valorem	
	<u>New duty</u>	<u>: Old duty</u>
	<u>--Percent--</u>	
Oranges, (bitter only), grapefruit, and limes	10	16
Dried and processed--		
Apples and pears	5	10
Peaches, apricots, and nectarines	3	10
Cranberries and bilberries	5	10
Bananas	Nil	10
Pineapple	"	20
Figs, fresh and dried	"	10
Dates	"	10
Almonds and hazelnuts	"	10
Walnuts	3	10
Brazil nuts, cashews	Nil	10
Pistachios	"	10
Chestnuts	"	10

GERMAN REPUBLIC MAY LOWER TARIFFS FOR BEEF AND PORK LIVERS

Contemplated lower import duties for hog and beef livers by the Federal Republic of Germany will encourage United States exports to that country. The reductions would further liberalize Germany's trade in agricultural commodities. German firms are now importing hog and beef livers from the United States by the use of premium dollars and would expand their imports even more if dollars were more readily available. The import duties are also affecting the trade in these items.

The proposed new German tariff law would reduce the duty on hog livers from 7 percent, during the four months January 1 - April 30, to 5 percent during the same period. The duty on cattle livers would be reduced from 15 percent to 5 percent; and for meat, casings, and edible offal from game, from 20 percent to 10 percent.

A draft ordinance has been introduced to the Federal legislative bodies of the Federal Republic of Germany to revise the German tariffs on a large number of commodities. The present draft provides for temporary tariff reductions up to 50 percent of the rates presently applied. For some items complete duty exemptions are proposed. The contemplated reductions or exemptions are limited for a period from December 1, 1955, to June 30, 1956. Duty concessions may be granted for a number of the commodities during the coming tariff negotiations within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) scheduled to begin in Geneva, January 1956.

The ordinance will be in effect after approval by the Bundersrat (which was expected to meet December 21). The Federal Minister of Finance has already instructed the customs offices to suspend payment of customs duties in excess of the proposed reduced rates as of December 10.

CHILE IMPORTS ARGENTINE BEEF

Over 2 million pounds of Argentine frozen beef have recently arrived at Valparaiso, Chile. This has been brought in by INACO (the sole meat importer) and was purchased from Frigorifico Anglo in Buenos Aires. Provisional Santiago prices on frozen Argentine meat have just been set by Decree No. 700 of the Superintendency of Supplies and Prices. At retail they range from 14 cents per pound for lower quality cuts to over a dollar per pound for fillets, on the basis of the official exchange rate of 200 pesos to the dollar.

TURKEY DEVELOPING MEAT- PACKING INDUSTRY

Turkey's Governmental Office for Meat and Fish has, using a great deal of United States financial and technical assistance, built 36 installations for handling meat and fish. It has built 4 meat packing plants; 11 cold-storage warehouses; 12 ice factories; 2 sausage factories; 2 fish meal and oil factories; and 4 fat, bait, and blood-drying installations. This activity is only a beginning, and when present programs are completed the activities of the "Office" will be on a much larger scale. For example, yearly cattle and fish purchases are now running at \$21.4 million per annum and will be boosted to \$89.5 million.

The new cold-storage plant at Ankara, a city of roughly 227,000 persons, has sufficient capacity to supply the city's needs for one month. This plant also will have a sausage factory and facilities for producing 88,000 pounds of ice per month.

It should be noted that whereas in past years, due to inadequate slaughtering facilities, Turkey exported only live animals, it now is in a position to export meat and meat products. Domestic consumption of meat has increased in recent years. This has limited export supplies of both livestock and meat.

URUGUAY PROHIBITS COW SLAUGHTER

A Uruguayan government decree of October 31 prohibited the slaughter of cows capable of producing calves in Uruguay as another step in a program to increase beef production. Uruguay desires to increase foreign shipments of beef from the low level of 1955 in order to improve its general foreign-exchange position. Cows over 6 years of age, or diseased, are excluded.

CHILE IMPORTS U. S. LIVESTOCK

The Chilean Council to Promote Agricultural Investments has been studying plans to increase hog production in Chiloe Province. Some 30 breeding hogs purchased in Iowa are expected to arrive soon. As this purchase has not used all of the 1,540,000 pesos originally set aside, the balance will be used to buy other purebred livestock, probably dairy cattle and more hogs.

NEW ZEALAND EXPORTING BREEDING SHEEP TO PERU

The largest consignment of stud sheep ever to be exported from New Zealand will be shipped to Peru in early 1956. The consignment, consisting of about 500 sheep, will be largely Corriedales from the South Island, with some Romneys from the North Island.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Wholesale prices at specified markets, with comparisons
(U. S. cents per pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Quotations				Quotations			
	Date	Price	Month	Year	Date	Price	Month	Year
			earlier	earlier			earlier	earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
New Zealand Finest Gr.	Dec. 1	50.5	49.6	46.2	-	-	-	-
New Zealand Finest White	-	-	-	-	Dec. 1	33.8	32.2	22.5
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	Dec. 2	45.3	45.3	41.8	-	-	-	-
Choicest cheddar	-	-	-	-	Nov. 30	27.5	27.5	27.5
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter (bulk)	Nov. 30	48.9	48.9	48.8	-	-	-	-
Cheese	-	-	-	-	Nov. 30	30.8	30.8	30.8
Denmark (Copenhagen)	Nov. 24	50.2	46.4	42.1	-	-	-	-
France (Paris)								
Charentes Creamery butter	Nov. 29	94.6	90.7	72.7	-	-	-	-
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	Nov. 30	67.0	66.3	61.9	-	-	-	-
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	Nov. 25	58.8	58.6	58.3	-	-	-	-
Cheddar (Wisconsin)					Nov. 25	31.8	32.0	32.5
Netherlands								
(Leeuwarden) Creamery butter	Nov. 30	56.1	55.2	45.8	-	-	-	-
Full cream Gouda					Nov. 25	24.5	25.7	26.3
Edam 40 percent					Nov. 25	22.1	23.2	24.4
Belgium (Hasselt)	Dec. 1	83.7	80.6	79.6	-	-	-	-
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery	Nov. 26	58.5	58.1	58.6	-	-	-	-
Ontario white					Nov. 26	30.0	29.0	30.3

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee; US Consular Reports; and the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

UNITED STATES: Exports and imports of egg and poultry products,
October 1954 and 1955

	1954	1955	1954	1955
	Quantity (1,000)		Value (\$1,000)	
Exports:				
Eggs and egg products.....				
Shell eggs, doz.	7,892	6,392	2,275	2,372
Egg solids, lbs.	54	42	67	46
Eggs, frozen or otherwise:				
preserved, lbs.	46	25	16	10
Poultry and game, chilled:				
or frozen				
Chickens and capons, lbs.	377	1,128	190	376
Other poultry and				
game, lbs.	836	1,630	356	770
Poultry, canned, lbs.	325	421	124	177
Poultry, live (excluding				
baby chicks), lbs.	111	222	29	290
Baby chicks	1,204	1,491	185	58
Total value.....			3,242	4,099
Imports:				
Eggs and egg products				
Shell eggs, (including				
duck eggs), doz.	250	185	123	89
Egg solids, lbs.	1	1	1	2
Poultry and game (excluding				
live), lbs.	26	24	78	50
Poultry, live (excluding				
baby chicks), lbs.	8	4	4	2
Baby chicks	4	0	1	0
Total value			207	143

SEED DEVELOPMENTS IN RHODESIA

The possibility of an important seed-exporting industry in the Federation of Rhodesia is promising, provided producers cooperate in organized testing and certification schemes, said Mr. W. E. Kerr, Seed Analyst in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, on November 22. He said that the country has a suitable winter climate for vegetable production under irrigation. Over the past few years, several thousand pounds of lettuce seed have been exported to Britain and other countries in Europe, and it was hoped to extend production to other vegetable seeds.

Seed testing in Rhodesia has developed over the past 10 years. Before that, seeds had been tested for farmers upon request at the experimental station in Salisbury. The object was to test seeds for their general quality. In 1954 the Rhodesia Pasture Seed Growers' Association was formed to provide a continuous and cheap supply of high-quality grass seed for farmers.

A technical committee of Government specialists was appointed to assist the association. As a result, inquiries for grass seed have been received from countries as far afield as Australia and Algeria, and also from within the Union of Rhodesia, and other territories in Africa.

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TUNISIAN OLIVE OIL OUTLOOK
WORSENS; PRICES RISE

Tunisian trade circles now speak of an olive oil production of 16,500 to 27,500 short tons from the 1955 olive crop. The lower end of this range is only half the lower end of last October's estimate. Thus, the current crush is likely to be the smallest since 1947. As a result, prices have shot up 20 to 25 percent since late October. "Lampante", the most popular quality on the local market, was quoted at 290 francs per kilogram (37.6 cents per pound) at Sfax on November 30; the export grades "extra" and "surfine" averaged 320 francs (41.5 cents) on the same date).

Announcement of a temporary import quota of 10,000 metric tons of "lampante" for refining and re-export has met with little sympathy from the trade, which feels that the measure will prove ineffective and that it would have been wiser to allow importation of seed oils for local consumption. On the other hand, the President of the semi-official Office de l'Huile d'Olive is quoted as saying that importation of seed oil is contrary to the organization's policy.

EGYPT RE-ESTABLISHES "B" ACCOUNTS
FOR COTTON EXPORTS TO SWITZERLAND

An agreement between Swiss and Egyptian authorities, announced on October 8, 1955, provides for the re-establishment of "B" account transactions involving cotton shipments from Egypt to Switzerland. The "B" clearing accounts are a means whereby payments for Egyptian cotton may be made in Egyptian pounds at a special low rate of exchange. Accounts with Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Belgium were discontinued on September 26, 1955, when the dollar entitlement account system was also discontinued. The Swiss "B" accounts were re-established after the Swiss Government had assured the Egyptian Government that no cotton covered by these accounts would be re-exported.

U. S. COTTON LINTERS
EXPORTS, OCTOBER 1955

Exports of cotton linters (mostly chemical grades, 5-7) from the United States in October 1955, amounted to 26,000 bales (500 pounds gross) increasing sharply from the 19,000 bales exported in September, and returning to the level of the August exports of 27,000 bales. Linters exports in October 1954 amounted to 22,000 bales.

Linters exports for the 3 months August-October 1955 amounted to 71,000 bales or 37 percent higher than the 52,000 bales exported in August-October 1954. Principal destinations for United States linters in August-October 1955, with corresponding 1954 figures in parentheses were: Republic of Germany 27,000 bales (7,000); United Kingdom 24,000 (14,000); Canada 7,000 (6,000); Japan 7,000 (7,000); and France 4,000 (13,000).

U. S. COTTON LINTERS
IMPORTS, OCTOBER 1955

United States imports of cotton linters (mostly felting grades, 1-4) in October 1955 amounted to 20,000 bales (500 pounds gross) increasing about 18 percent from the 17,000 bales imported in September 1955. Linters imports in October 1954 also amounted to 17,000 bales.

Linters imports during the 3 months August-October 1955 amounted to 54,000 bales or 22 percent higher than the 44,000 bales imported in August-October 1954. Principal sources in August-October 1955, with corresponding 1954 figures in parentheses were: Mexico 37,000 bales (23,000); U.S.S.R. 10,000 (4,000); Brazil 2,000 (5,000); and Guatemala 200 (10,000).

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS, OCTOBER 1955

United States imports of cotton (for consumption) in October 1955 amounted to 11,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or less than half of September imports of 24,000 bales. Early shipments against the Mexican import quota of 18,500 bales in the quota year beginning September 20, accounted for the high level of September imports. Imports in October 1954 were 7,000 bales.

UNITED STATES: Imports of cotton by countries of origin;
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1953 and 1954;
and August-October 1954 and 1955

(bales of 500 pounds gross)						
Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-October	
	Averages		1953	1954	1954	1955
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan:	1/	2/ 4	7	3	3	1
Brazil.....	3	1	2	1	1	3/
China.....	2/ 31	4/ 3/	0	0	0	0
Egypt.....	63	103	77	2/ 73	9	11
India.....	67	103	18	17	1	1
Mexico.....	23	19	17	20	1	16
Pakistan.....	6/	7/ 12	14	11	3	7
Peru.....	1	23	8	22	5	6
U.S.S.R.....	4/ 5	7/ 1	1	1	0	0
Others.....	0	0	1	2	3/	3/
Total 8/	9/ 185	9/ 260	145	150	23	42

1/ Included with Egypt prior to 1942. 2/ 4-year average. 3/ Less than 500 bales. 4/ 2-year average. 5/ Includes 460 bales transshipped via Italy. 6/ Included with India prior to partition in 1947. 7/ 3-year average. 8/ Includes small quantities which are re-exported each year. 9/ Total does not add because of 2-, 3-, or 4-year averages.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

YUGOSLAVIA INCREASES COTTON
IMPORTS AND CONSUMPTION

Yugoslavia's cotton imports of 184,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during the August-July 1954-55 marketing year represented a sharp increase over 1953-54 imports of approximately 120,000 bales. The resulting increase in supplies was reflected in increasing consumption of cotton, and a greatly improved stock position. Imports from the United States amounted to 76,000 bales in the first 6 months of the calendar year 1955, as compared with 32,000 bales for the entire year 1954, and 82,000 bales in 1953. Turkey, Egypt, Greece, and Brazil are the other principal suppliers of Yugoslavia's cotton. (Cont'd., next page.)

Cotton consumption in Yugoslavia was estimated at 150,000 bales during the 1954-55 marketing year, increasing 20 percent over consumption of 125,000 bales in 1953-54. Domestic per capita consumption of cotton goods was estimated at 4.8 pounds for the current year, which was lower than that of some other European countries. Increasing supplies of cotton goods available to consumers are resulting in a gradual increase in the consumption of cotton products, although prices remain relatively high in comparison with other industrial products.

Yugoslavia has 19 spinning mills in operation, 4 of which were built in 1952. Approximately 15,000 looms are installed, about 7,000 of which are operating steadily. There are about 360,000 spindles installed.

Cotton production in Yugoslavia amounted to approximately 7,000 bales in 1954-55 as compared with 5,000 in 1953-54. The Government has encouraged the production of more and better cotton in recent years, but limited acreage suitable for cotton production has prevented any major expansion.

Cotton stocks in Yugoslavia were estimated at 50,000 bales on August 1, 1955, increasing sharply over the 9,000 bales held a year earlier.

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With Comparisons. Foreign Ag. Circ. FT-48-55

Coffee in the Haitian Economy. Foreign Ag. Circ. (Unnumbered)

Marketing Dairy Products as Ghee and Recombined Milk in the Near and Middle
East. Foreign Ag. Circ. FD-3-55

